

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
JULY 9, 2013**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Micki Ziskovsky, Kevin Kodada, Laura Carpentier, and Shelly Narum

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jeanette Utecht

STAFF PRESENT:

City Planner Benjamin Baker

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kodada called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers at 415 Central Street West.

2. AGENDA

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Ziskovsky to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Ziskovsky, Kodada, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

3. MINUTES

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Ziskovsky to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2013 Meeting. Vote for: Ziskovsky, Kodada, and Carpentier; Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. PUBLIC HEARING

None

Narum arrives at the meeting.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

a. Review Plans for the Downtown Plaza Park and Authorize City Staff to Advertise for Bids for the Downtown Plaza Park

Special guest Debbie Rud was present at the meeting to help provide input on the features for the new plaza. Based on suggestions from the initial Downtown Park Committee, the Park Board and Rud discussed and planned out the new plaza around the large meeting table. The following items were decided upon during the discussion and planning process:

Site Furnishings

- Two masonry block style tables in the rear of the plaza are preferred.
- All benches should be the Upbeat – Rendezvous style. Six park benches are suggested, but that number could be cut down to four if needed.
- Garbage receptacles should be the Upbeat – Rendezvous style. The receptacles can be located according, once the site is constructed.
- Two 5-swivel seat tables should be the Upbeat – Rendezvous style and located in the front of the plaza.

Ground Cover

- Stamped concrete or “sweat troweling” technique should be poured throughout the plaza area with square pattern spacing saw cuts throughout.
- A regular concrete sidewalk should be poured along Main Street and around the sandbox.
- Larger sized river rock should be located along the north and south sides of the plaza to discourage travel through those areas.
- Two ground level planting beds should be covered in colored wooden mulch.
- Grass sod can be planted on all the areas not covered by rock, mulch, and concrete.

Main Attractions and Features

- The central water fountain feature should be 8’–12’ in diameter, with a solid low profile ring base, and have a similar spay ring pattern as that of the Downtown Lakeville fountain example.
- Four retaining wall / raised bed landscape planters with corner columns and planter bowls and/or lights. The retaining wall type/color should be Rockwood StoneHedge - gray. A chiseled-face cap should be installed on top of the wall. In-block lights should be considered.
- A sandbox should be located in the rear of the property and boarded by concrete.

Plantings

- Two shade/canopy trees and three smaller crab type trees should be planted in the rear area around the sandbox.
- Three small/dwarf evergreen trees, or similar, should be planted in each of the four raised planters.
- Six trees (2 shade trees, and two ornamental trees), grasses, spirea, day lilies, and other low-maintenance plantings shall be planted in the two ground level planting beds.

- A hedge or split rail fence should be located along the rear and northwestern property lines. A privacy fence may be needed along the southwest corner of the 133 Main Street North property.

Based on the items agreed upon above, a motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Ziskovsky to recommend that the City advertise for bids on the Downtown Park Plaza. Vote for: Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

The Park Board said that a name for the downtown plaza park area should be decided on sometime soon. Baker said that he would bring the Park Naming Policy to the next meeting.

b. Review Parks & Trails Priority Projects for the 2014 Budget

Baker noted that the City Council will be starting their 2014 Budget discussions on July 18th. The Board reviewed the updated list of 2013-2014 Park Projects and the updated “Future Parks & Trails Improvement Project & Priorities” spreadsheet based on conversation from the June Park Board meeting. After reviewing the proposed projects, the Board members agreed that the updated list could be presented to the City Council.

c. Update on Park/Planting Projects

The Board reviewed updated pictures from the on-going park projects. Baker provided a brief update on the Kalina Park Project and the Sticha Park Project.

d. Consider Hosting a Grand Opening Celebration for the New Sticha Park Pavilion and Playground on Tuesday, August 13, 2013 at 6:00 pm

The Park Board agreed that August 13th would be a good night to host a ribbon-cutting celebration for the new Sticha Park pavilion and playground.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

- Carpentier stated that City mowing crews might be blowing grass clippings onto the roads in the Willow Creek Heights neighborhood creating grass clumps in the roadway. She also mentioned that weeds are growing up through the cracks between the asphalt road surface and the concrete curblines. Carpentier asked if someone from the City could weed the flowers at each of the City Welcome Signs.
- Kodada mentioned that he recently met with the State Commissioner of Amateur Baseball regarding the possibility of Lonsdale hosting a State Tournament five years down the road. He said that the Commissioner was pleased with Lonsdale’s DRS Ball Field except for a few minor improvements that would be needed in order to host a State Tournament, including new field lights. Kodada said that the current tennis court could be converted into batting cages at some point in the future.

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Ziskovsky to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Narum; Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Benjamin Baker, City Planner